Concurrence to Pesticides (Quality Control) Orders

2183. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh had sought concurrence of the Central Government to issue an exclusive order "The pesticides" (quality control) order, 1988 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government had accorded concurrence thereto and if not, what are the reasons, therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) The Andhra Pradesh Government had sought concurrence of the Central Government to issue an exclusive Order, namely, the Andhra Pradesh Insecticide (Quality Control), Order, 1988 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(b) Since the matters, envisaged to be regulated by the proposed Special Order of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, are adequately covered under the Insecticides Act, 1968, the State Government has been advised that the issuance of the said order would not serve much purpose.

Code of conduct among the newspapers

2184. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have called for a code of conduct among the newspapers to ensure proper use of the freedom of press;

(b) whether there have been innumerable complaints in the country over the misuse of AIR and Doordarshan by the ruling party; if so, whether Government propose to formulate a code of conduct for AIR and Doordarshan; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for singling out newspapers for sermonizing in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) There has been a demand for a Code of conduct for the Press from various quarters from time to time. The Government's view is that such a code should be evolved by the Press themselves with the help of the Press Council of India. In fact, the Press Council is charged under its statute to build up such a code.

(b) Both All India Radio and Doordarshan adhere to the policy guidelines prepared by the Advisory Committee on official Media and present news/programmes in an objective, balanced and factual manner. Any specific allegations made against the media are also looked into carefully.

(c) Does not arise.

Issue and Procurement Price of Maize and other cereals

2185. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that NAFED is supplying Maize and other cereals to a multinational company to manufacture poultry and cattle feed; if so, what is the quantity supplied per annum during the last three years; and

(b) what are the issue prices thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). During the last three financial years ending 31/3/89, NAFED supplied, along with others, a quantity of 2597 tonnes of imported commercial maize at the rate of Rs. 2300/- per tonne to M/s. Lipton India Ltd., Bangalore in July, 1988. During the year 1988-89, NAFED has also sold Bajra all over the country to various buyers for human consumption as well as for animal and poultry feed.